

U .S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CRIMINAL DIVISION
RESIDENT LEGAL ADVISOR FOR BENIN

About the Office: The mission of the Criminal Division's Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT) is to develop and administer technical and developmental assistance designed to enhance the capabilities of foreign justice sector institutions and their law enforcement personnel, so they can cooperate more fully with the Department of Justice in combating terrorism, trafficking in persons, organized crime, corruption, and financial crimes.

Responsibilities and

Opportunity Offered: The Office seeks an experienced Assistant United States Attorney or Department of Justice Trial Attorney to serve as Resident Legal Advisor (RLA) in Cotonou, Benin. This assignment is for a term of one year with the possibility of an extension contingent upon the availability of funding. **(This is a reimbursable detail.)** The RLA represents the U.S. Department of Justice and OPDAT and implements a justice sector assistance program undertaken as part of the Women's Justice Empowerment Initiative, which is a U.S. interagency effort to combat gender based violence in selected African states. The RLA will work with other donors and host country officials in Benin to assess gender-based violence problems and to provide technical and developmental assistance. The RLA will help develop and institutionalize programs to combat domestic violence and sexual offenses. The RLA will help increase the capacity of Benin's prosecutors and judges to effectively investigate, prosecute and adjudicate gender based criminal conduct. This work could involve providing advice on draft and existing laws and regulations.

Qualifications: Required qualifications: Applicants must possess a J.D. degree, be duly licensed and authorized to practice as an attorney under the laws of a State, territory, or the District of Columbia. **Applicants must be a current Department Trial Attorney or Assistant United States Attorney** and have at least four or five years of post J.D. experience to be qualified at the GS-14 or 15 level. An applicant must have excellent interpersonal skills; possess the ability to function effectively in a multi-cultural environment; be mature and self-sufficient; be able to efficiently initiate and manage work projects; possess extensive experience investigating and prosecuting criminal conduct that involves violence against women; and be fluent in French, that is be able to understand all forms and styles of speech and use spoken French fluently and accurately

on all levels normally pertinent to professional needs; and be proficient in written French.

Preferred qualifications: Comparative law or other experience gained working within an African context is desired, but is not essential.

Travel: The position may require some travel within the country and the region.

Salary Information: Current salary and years of experience determine the appropriate salary level. (See OPM's Web page at www.opm.gov/oca/payrates/index.htm)

Location: The RLA will be stationed in Cotonou, Benin beginning in September 2007.

Relocation Expenses: Relocation expenses are authorized.

Submission Process
and Deadline Date:

Interested applicants should send a resume and cover letter as soon as possible to the attention of James Silverwood, Regional Director, Africa and the Middle East Region, Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT), Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, 10th and Pennsylvania Aves., NW, Washington, DC 20530. Faxed or email submissions are acceptable. The fax number is: (202) 616-6770. The email address is: james.silverwood@usdoj.gov.

This process remains open until the position is filled.